

Abstract

An internal combustion engine operates with a fuel system, in which a fuel quantity arriving in a combustion chamber is a function of a triggering of a piezo actuator of a fuel injector. The triggering energy (dU_2) for the piezo actuator is made available by
5 a buffer store. To permit monitoring of the triggering function, it is proposed that at least intermittently, the potential difference (dU_1) of the buffer store resulting in response to a triggering of the piezo actuator be at least approximately ascertained and used for a comparison to at least one limiting value (76, 80). (Figure 3).